WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An air bag device comprising: an air bag which is accommodated in a folded state along sides of a seat back and a seat cushion of a seat for an occupant and which is adapted to be expanded by a gas generated by an inflator upon side collision of a vehicle to be deployed between an inner surface of a side of a vehicle compartment and the occupant,

wherein the air bag is disposed outside a lap belt of a seat belt device provided with the seat.

2. An air bag device according to claim 1, further including an air bag cover enclosing said air bag in the folded state, said air bag and said air bag cover are disposed at least partially within said seat.

3. An air bag device according to claim 2, wherein said air bag cover includes a protrusion disposed outside of said seat and enclosing a portion of said air bag, said lap belt extends between said protrusion and said seat.

4. An air bag device according to claim 3, further including a cover disposed over said protrusion.

5. An air bag device according to claim 2, wherein said lap belt extends between said air bag cover and the occupant.

6. An air bag device according to claim 2, wherein a vertically

extending portion of said lap belt is disposed between said air bag cover and the occupant.

7. An air bag device according to claim 1, further including an air bag cover enclosing said air bag in the folded state, said air bag and said air bag cover are disposed within said seat.

8. An air bag device according to claim 1, wherein when said air bag is deployed it connects an upper end of said seat back and a front end of the seat cushion.

9. An air bag device according to claim 2, wherein said air bag cover includes a first portion embedded in the seat back, a second portion embedded in the seat cushion, and a flexible portion connecting the first and second portions.

10. An air bag device according to claim 7, wherein a bore is formed through said seat cushion inwardly of said air bag cover, said lap belt extends through said bore.

11. An air bag device comprising:

an air bag which is accommodated in a folded state along sides of a seat back and a seat cushion of a seat for an occupant of a vehicle;

an inflator which generates a gas to the air bag upon side collision of the vehicle to be deployed between an inner surface of a side of a vehicle compartment and the occupant,

wherein the air bag is disposed outside a lap belt of a seat belt device provided with the seat such that no portion of the air bag is between the lap belt and the occupant.

12. An air bag device according to claim 11, further including an air bag cover enclosing said air bag in the folded state, said air bag and said air bag cover are disposed at least partially within said seat.

13. An air bag device according to claim 12, wherein said air bag cover includes a protrusion disposed outside of said seat and enclosing a portion of said air bag, said lap belt extends between said protrusion and said seat.

14. An air bag device according to claim 13, further including a cover disposed over said protrusion.

15. An air bag device according to claim 12, wherein said lap belt extends between said air bag cover and the occupant.

16. An air bag device according to claim 12, wherein a vertically extending portion of said lap belt is disposed between said air bag cover and the occupant.

17. An air bag device according to claim 11, further including an air bag cover enclosing said air bag in the folded state, said air bag and said air bag cover are disposed within said seat.

18. An air bag device according to claim 11, wherein when said air bag is deployed it connects an upper end of said seat back and a front end of the seat cushion.

19. An air bag device according to claim 12, wherein said air bag cover includes a first portion embedded in the seat back, a second portion embedded in the seat cushion, and a flexible portion connecting the first and second portions.

20. An air bag device according to claim 17, wherein a bore is formed through said seat cushion inwardly of said air bag cover, said lap belt extends through said bore.